

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
TRSE-00 OMB-01 EB-08 COME-00 /070 W
-----116414 222120Z /72

R 221342Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
TO AMEMBASSY VIENNA
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4766

C O N F I D E N T I A L PRAGUE 0466

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EGEN, CZ, AU
SUBJ: VISIT TO VIENNA OF FINANCE MINISTER LER

1. WE UNDERSTAND THAT GOC FINANCE MINISTER LEOPOLD LER IS SCHEDULED TO VISIT VIENNA MARCH 5-8 FOR DISCUSSION WITH GOA VICE CHANCELLOR AND FINANCE MINISTER ANDROSCH. LER, WHO IS GENERALLY CONSIDERED TO BE ONE OF THE MORE ECONOMICALLY RATIONAL GOC LEADERS AND RUMORED TO BE INCREASING HIS INFLUENCE, HAS RECENTLY BEEN WRITING AND SPEAKING PUBLICLY ABOUT THE "COMPREHENSIVE

EXPERIMENT OF MANAGING EFFECTIVENESS AND QUALITY" OF CZECHOSLOVAK INDUSTRY. WHAT HAS APPEARED IN PRESS TO DATE HAS NOT CLARIFIED MANY IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF THIS "COMPREHENSIVE EXPERIMENT," WHICH WILL INVOLVE 150 INDUSTRIAL ENTERPRISES AND VARIOUS OTHER ORGANIZATIONS BETWEEN 1978 AND 1980. THE KEY QUESTIONS ON THIS PROGRAM, WHICH WAS APPROVED BY GOC PRESIDIUM

LAST DECEMBER 8, ARE WHETHER IT ENTAILS SIGNIFICANT DECENTRALIZATION OF DECISION-MAKING AND WHETHER IT INDICATES THAT A MAJOR MANAGERIAL AND ECONOMIC REFORM HAS BEEN LAUNCHED. WE WILL BE REPORTING FURTHER ON THIS.

2. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD BE MOST GRATEFUL FOR ANY
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INFORMATION ON ABOVE TOPIC WHICH EMBASSY VIENNA MIGHT BE ABLE TO DEVELOP FROM GOA OFFICIALS INVOLVED IN LER'S VISIT.
BYRNE

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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